

**BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554**

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| IN THE MATTER OF |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | CC Docket No. 96-45 |
| FEDERAL-STATE JOINT BOARD ON |) | |
| UNIVERSAL SERVICE |) | |
| _____ |) | |

**COMMENTS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PURSUANT TO SECTION 54-316(A)**

The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (“DCPSC”) hereby files comments pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54-316’s¹ requirement that the DCPSC compare the residential, rural rates in the District of Columbia served by non-rural, incumbent local exchange carriers with urban rates nationwide to confirm that these rates are reasonably comparable, for purposes of section 254(b)(c) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The District of Columbia is a wholly urban jurisdiction without any rural areas. Accordingly, the DCPSC should not be required to file the yearly certification required by 47 C.F.R. § 54-316 because this rule does not apply the District.

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 54.316(a) (2004).

On behalf of the

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:**

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